

# *Executive Proclamation*

## *State of South Dakota*

### *Office of the Governor*

*Whereas*, Congenital Heart Defects are the most frequently occurring birth defects and the leading cause of defect related deaths worldwide; and,

*Whereas*, Congenital Heart Defects are among the most common birth defects and are the leading cause of birth-defect related deaths with one in every hundred babies being affected; and,

*Whereas*, Some Congenital Heart Defects are not diagnosed until months or years after birth. Undiagnosed Congenital Heart conditions cause many cases of sudden cardiac death in young athletes; and,

*Whereas*, Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Week provides opportunity for families whose lives have been affected to celebrate life and to remember loved ones lost, honor dedicated health professionals, and meet others in a similar situation; and,

*Whereas*, Over the past few decades, the diagnoses and treatment of these complex defects has greatly improved:

*Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard*, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim February 7-14, 2011, as

## *HEART DEFECT AWARENESS WEEK*

in South Dakota.



*In Witness Whereof*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-sixth Day of January in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Eleven.

*Dennis Daugaard*  
Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Attest:

*Jason M. Gant*  
Jason M. Gant, Secretary of State